
MEMORANDUM - OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Michael Branley, Town Administrator
RE: Weekly Update
DATE: March 7, 2014
CC:

Next Board of Selectmen meeting 3/10 at 6:30 p.m.

REMINDER: Town Meeting is Saturday 3/15 and Town Election is Tuesday 3/11 – you should plan to discuss on Monday who will be covering the election at which times.

This week I completed some routine monthly tasks, including January's bank reconciliation, February's NHRS reporting, and February fuel date entering and allocation. As you know, we also shipped out the annual report on Tuesday. As you are aware by my CCing you on the email, I spoke to PSNH and responded to Bill McAuley's letter regarding the utility tree cutting on the Turnpike. Assuming PSNH and its contractors do not cut any trees in violation of the law, I consider the matter addressed for the time being.

With the passage of the March 1 deadline, we have received ten 2013 tax abatements, which Dave will begin working on immediately. It is worth noting that one of the abatements came from Crotched Mountain Foundation regarding their wastewater treatment facility. This was somewhat confusing based on my meeting with some of their top officials in January to discuss the assessment, which was heavily based on the costing information they provided. Town Counsel contacted their attorney briefly to discuss the matter and was given the impression that the abatement is part of an effort to shape tax negotiations going forward. At Crotched Mountain's request, Dave and I will be meeting with two of their officials again this coming Thursday. I will of course keep you advised.

I prepared for and attended the Board of Tax and Land Appeals hearing regarding the charitable tax exempt status of the Francestown Village Water Company on Thursday morning. We were notified that we should expect to have a decision within 30 to 45 days.

Friday afternoon Gary and I reviewed the status of the Highway budget through February and I will discuss with you on Monday a possible amendment.